

Noxious weeds are non-native plants that have been introduced to Washington through human actions. Because of their aggressive growth and lack of natural enemies in the state, these species can be highly destructive, competitive, or difficult to control. These exotic species can reduce crop yields, destroy native plant and animal habitat, damage recreational opportunities, clog waterways, lower land values, create erosion problems and fire hazards, and poison humans and livestock.

To help protect the state's resources, the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board adopts a State Noxious Weed List each year. The list categorizes weeds into three major classes: A, B, and C according to the seriousness of the threat they pose to the state or a region of the state.

The Whatcom County Noxious Weed List is made up of all Class A weeds, Class B designates, and any selections by the County Board from the Class B or Class C weed list.

2002 Whatcom County Noxious Weed List

Class A Weeds

Class A weeds are non-native species with a limited distribution in Washington. Preventing new infestations and eradicating existing infestations is the highest priority. Control of these species is required by law.

Common Name	Scientific Name
bean-caper, Syrian	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>
blueweed, Texas	<i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>
broom, Spanish	<i>Spartium junceum</i>
buffalobur	<i>Solanum rostratum</i>
clary, meadow	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>
cordgrass, salt meadow	<i>Spartina patens</i>
crupina, common	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>
flax, spurge	<i>Thymelaea passerina</i>
four o'clock, wild	<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i>
goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>
hawkweed, yellow devil	<i>Hieracium floribundum</i>
hogweed, giant	<i>Heraclium mantegazzianum</i>
hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
johnsongrass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>
knawweed, bighead	<i>Centaurea macrocephala</i>
knawweed, Vochin	<i>Centaurea nigrescens</i>
lawnweed	<i>Soliva sessilis</i>
mustard, garlic	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>

nightshade, silverleaf
sage, clary
sage, Mediterranean
saltcedar
spurge, eggleaf
starthistle, purple
thistle, Italian
thistle, milk
thistle, slenderflower
velvetleaf
wood, dyers

Solanum elaeagnifolium
Salvia sclarea
Salvia aethiopsis
Tamarix ramosissima
Euphorbia oblongata
Centaurea calcitrapa
Carduus pycnocephalus
Silybum marianum
Carduus tenuiflorus
Abutilon theophrasti
Isatis tinctoria

Class B Weeds

Class B weeds are non-native species that are presently limited to portions of the state. Class B species are designated for control in regions where they are not yet widespread. Preventing infestation in these areas is a high priority. In regions where a Class B weed is already abundant, control is decided at the local level, with containment as the primary goal.

Class B Designates, Whatcom County

blackgrass
blueweed
bryony, white
bugloss, annual
bugloss, common
camelthorn
chervil, wild
cinquefoil, sulfur
cordgrass, smooth
cordgrass, common
fanwort
fieldcress, Austrian
floating heart, yellow
gorse
hawkweed, mouseear
hawkweed, polar
hawkweed, yellow
hedge parsley
indigobush
knawweed, black
knawweed, brown
knawweed, diffuse
knawweed, meadow
knawweed, Russian
knawweed, spotted
kochia
lepyrodiclis
loosestrife, garden
loosestrife, purple
loosestrife, wand
nutsedge, yellow
ox-tongue hawkweed

Alopecurus myosuroides
Echium vulgare
Bryonia alba
Anchusa arvensis
Anchusa officinalis
Alhagi pseudalhagi
Anthriscus sylvestris
Potentilla recta
Spartina alterniflora
Spartina anglica
Cabomba caroliniana
Rorippa austriaca
Nymphoides peltata
Ulex europaeus
Hieracium pilosella
Hieracium atratum
Hieracium caespitosum
Torilis arvensis
Amorpha fruticosa
Centaurea nigra
Centaurea jacea
Centaurea diffusa
Centaurea jacea x nigra
Acroptilon repens
Centaurea biebersteinii
Kochia scoparia
Lepyrrodiclis holsteoides
Lysmachia vulgaris
Lythrum salicaria
Lythrum virgatum
Cyperus esculentus
Picris hieracioides

parrotfeather
pepperweed, perennial
primrose, water
rocket, garden
sandbur, longspine
skeletonweed, rush
sowthistle, perennial
spurge, leafy
starthistle, yellow
Swainsonpea
thistle, musk
thistle, plumeless
thistle, Scotch
toadflax, Dalmatian

Myriophyllum aquaticum
Lepidium latifolium
Ludwigia hexapetala
Eruca Vesicaria ssp. sativa
Cenchrus longispinus
Chondrilla juncea
Sonchus arvensis arvensis
Euphorbia esula
Centaurea solstitialis
Sphaerophysa salsula
Carduus nutans
Carduus acanthoides
Onopordum acanthium
Linaria dalmatica sp. dalmatica

Class B County Selected, Whatcom County

elodea, Brazilian
hawkweed, orange
hawkweed, smooth
helmet, policeman's
knotweed, Giant
knotweed, Japanese
★ragwort, tansy
scotch broom
watermilfoil, eurasian

Egeria densa
Hieracium aurantiacum
Hieracium laevigatum
Impatiens glandulifera
Polygonum sachalinense
Polygonum cuspidatum
Senecio jacobaea
Cytisus scoparius
Myriophyllum spicatum

Class C Weeds

Class C weeds are other non-native weeds found to be widespread in the state. Whatcom County Selected Class B and Class C Weeds are targeted for educational or biological efforts only.

Class C County Selected, Whatcom County

beard, old man's
canarygrass, reed
hawkweed, spp.
iris, yellow flag
ivy, English
poison-hemlock
St. Johnswort, common
tansy, common
thistle, bull
thistle, Canada
water lily, fragrant

Clematis vitalba
Phalaris arundinacea
Hieracium (non-native)
Iris pseudocorus
Hedera hibernica
Hedera helix 'Baltica'
Hedera helix 'Star'
Hedera helix 'Pittsburgh'
Conium maculatum
Hypericum perforatum
Tanacetum vulgare
Cirsium vulgare
Cirsium arvense
Nymphaea odorata

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: Noxious weeds identified with an underline receive
: highest priority for education, surveying and
: notification to owners of infested property. A ★
: indicates the target species for enforcement
: activities for the 2002 season.
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